

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /076 W

-----240501Z 116921 /14/20

R 230953Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4256

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 19865

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT PARA 1

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, TH

SUBJECT: VISIT OF THAI PRIME MINISTER TANIN TO MANILA DEC 20-22

REF: MANILA 19722

1. THAI PRIME MINISTER TANIN CONCLUDED ESSENTIALLY ROUTINE VISIT TO MANILA AS SCHEDULED ON DECEMBER 22. ACCORDING THAI EMBOFF, MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO COMPLETE TANIN'S TOUR OF ASEAN COUNTRIES, ENABLE HIM TO MEET PRESIDENT MARCOS AND TO PROVIDE ACCOMPANYING THAI CABINET MEMBERS (MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL) OPPORTUNITY TO MEET GOP COUNTERPARTS.

2. COMMUNIST SUBVERSION WAS MAJOR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AND DOMINATED PRESS ACCOUNTS. REFERRING TO PARA NINE
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OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE "BULLETIN TODAY" PROCLAIMED, "RP, THAILAND SEAL AID PACT ON SUBVERSION". SUCH HEADLINES PROMPTED MARCOS TO EMPHASIZE AT PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING TANIN'S DEPARTURE THAT THERE WAS "NO INTENTION TO ESTABLISH A MILITARY ALLIANCE", THAT AGREEMENT TO EXCHANGE SECURITY INFORMATION IS IN FACT ALREADY FOUR YEARS OLD; THAT, AS STATED IN COMMUNIQUE, UNDERSTANDING IS "NON ASEAN", AND (JUST FOR GOOD MEASURE) THAT SEATO WOULD AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED BE DISMANTLED BY JUNE 1977.

3. THAI EMBOFF AGREED THAT VIETNAMES (WHO HAVE JUST OPENED AN EMBASSY IN MANILA) WERE PROBABLY DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH, BUT COULD PROVIDE NO DETAILS.

4. THAI EMBOFF DISPLAYED SOME EMBARRASSMENT OVER TANIN'S OUTSPOKEN ATTACK ON FOREIGN PRESS FOR ITS DISTORTION OF RECENT EVENTS IN THAILAND. HE NOTED THAT THESE REMARKS WERE PROBABLY AMPLIFIED BY MANILA PRESS BECAUSE SIMILAR VIEWS ARE HELD LOCALLY.

5. COMMENT. VISIT WAS FRIENDLY BUT APPARENTLY UNEVENTFUL. TANIN PRESENCE IN MANILA TENDED TO GET LOST AMID COMPETING EVENTS WHICH INCLUDED RETURN OF MRS. MARCOS FROM MONTH ABROAD, OPENING SESSION OF NEW LEGISLATURE, AND ARMED FORCES DAY. RELATIVELY LOW KEY RECEPTION BY FILIPINOS SHOULD CERTAINLY NOT BE TAKEN TO IMPLY ANY LACK OF RAPPORT WITH NEW REGIME IN BANGKOK, BUT SIMPLY FACT THAT THAILAND AND PHILIPPINES ARE GEOGRAPHICALLY FURTHEST APART OF ASEAN COUNTRIES AND HAVE LEAST IN COMMON.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 16 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PFOR, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COMMUNISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANILA19865
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760470-1287
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761293/baaaessn.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF THAI PRIME MINISTER TANIN TO MANILA DEC 20-22
TAGS: PFOR, RP, TH, (THANIN KRAIWICHIAN)
To: STATE
BANGKOK
HONG KONG
JAKARTA
KUALA LUMPUR
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006